of culturally significant cities are being looked after by the Ministry of Urban Development.

Conservation of Jain Monuments in Karnataka

1363. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has approached the Central Government for providing financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 20 crores for conservation of Jain monuments; and

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal and by when the decision is expected to be communicated to the State Government of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Culture has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 206.49 lakhs to CPWD for undertaking developmental works in and around 11 unprotected Jain Monuments and ASI has been allocated Rs. 260.00 lakhs for renovation and conservation of 15 centrally protected Jain Monuments in Karnataka.

Tourism potential of India and China

1364. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians toured China in the year 2001 and 2002 *vis-a-vis* Chinese visited India during that period;

(b) the steps taken to persuade Indian Tour Operators to exploit tourism prospects of China; and

(c) the other action proposed to explore the tourism potentials of both countries to the maximum?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) As per the latest report published by the World Tourism Organisation, 159361 Indians visited China and 13901 Chinese visited India in the year 2001. Information for the year 2002 is not available.

(b) and (c) A special initiative has been taken to obtain 'Approved Destination Status' from China which will enhance inflow of tourists from